

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 14592 061547Z

40

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 SAM-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 /045 W

----- 107508

R 061245Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1682

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 14592

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: SOLH CABINET WINS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

REF: BEIRUT 14528

1. AS ANTICIPATED, CABINET OF RASHID SOLH WON EVENING DEC. 5 VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, THUS BRINGING TO END CABINET CRISIS THAT BEGAN SEPT. 25 (BEIRUT 11654). EXACTLY TWO-THIRDS OF DEPUTIES (66) SUPPORTED NEW CABINET ON VOTE WITH 14 (EDDE-SALAM-KARAME SUPPORTERS) OPPOSED, TWO ABSTENTIONS AND 16 (INCLUDING SPEAKER ASSAD, WHO DECAMPED EARLY FOR NABATIYEH TO SUPPORT HIS CANDIDATE IN DEC. 8 SPECIAL ELECTION THERE, AND KAMAL JUMBLATT, WHO CONTINUED HIS STRADDLE PLAY (REFTEL) BY FLYING TO PARIS BEFORE VOTE) ABSENT.

2. KARAME'S SPEECH PRECEDING VOTE TURNED OUT TO BE NEITHER AS LENGTHY NOR AS CAUSTIC AS EXPECTED AND ATMOSPHERE DURING VOTE WAS DESCRIBED AS "CALM". IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING VOTE, HOWEVER, BEIRUT RESIDENTS  
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WERE TREATED TO TRADITIONAL CELEBRATIONS, INCLUDING

GUNFIRE AND EXPLOSIONS. JITTERY BEIRUTIS, ACCORDING  
LOCAL PAPERS, ONCE AGAIN CONCLUDED THAT ISRAELIS WERE  
AT HAND.

3. COMMENT: HAVING PASSED CONFIDENCE VOTE HURDLE  
FOLLOWING STORMY PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE, SOLH CABINET  
NOW FACES FULL PLATE OF PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES. WE  
PREPARING AIRGRAM EXAMINING DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL  
PROBLEMS FACING SOLH GOVERNMENT AS IT ASSUMES POWER.  
IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS, WE WILL ALSO BE POUCHING TO  
DEPT. AIRGRAM INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIC REPORTS ON LESS  
WELL-KNOWN MEMBERS OF SOLH CABINET (BEIRUT 13137).  
HOUGHTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REFORM, CABINET, VOTE OF CONFIDENCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BEIRUT14592  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740355-0158  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 01 MAY 2002  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOLH CABINET WINS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, LE, (SOLH, RASHID)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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